

1345

Lepers & leprosy - U. S. A.

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THE AMERICAN MISSION TO LEPERS, INC.

U. S. A. News Notes.

AT LAST, after meeting many obstacles, the site has been selected for the Federal Leprosarium. The Louisiana State Colony has been purchased and will be expanded as rapidly as practicable. This brings joy almost unspeakable, for after these years of uncertainty, a United States Hospital and Home will care properly for all our friends with this disease. One of the first needs is for a larger *Protestant Church* that will harmonize in character with the other buildings and the Catholic Church already there. The small Protestant chapel was built several years ago under the impression that another site would be selected for this Federal Hospital. The superintendent of the Colony has been appointed.

No else in the whole wide world could fill the place just like Dr. O. E. Denny, graduate of Pennsylvania University, who was for six years in charge of the largest leper colony in the world, at Culion, Philippine Islands. His place in the Philippines will be hard to fill, but he will be a great asset to this work in the United States.



Bethany Cottage.

A Home for thirty Leper Women, Chiengmai, Siam—built by the Women's Interdenominational Missionary Union, Washington, D. C.

MR. FLEMING H. REVELL has been appointed to represent the American Mission to Lepers in the Missionary Conference called for Shanghai, China, next spring.

"McDONALD" has found a place "where He Can Go," for, thanks to the good work done in his behalf by Bishop Hughes and Dr. Robbins of Boston, and Mr. Danner representing The Mission to Lepers the Massachusetts Legis-

lature passed a special bill, permitting "McDonald" to be admitted as a patient in the Massachusetts Leper Colony. He is now in a comfortable cottage, a happy resident of Penikese Island where he will remain until he becomes a cured patient, or until arrangements are made for transfers to the new Federal Hospital at Carville, Louisiana.

NEWS FROM AFAR.

A CHINESE OFFICIAL has given \$5000.00 with which The Mission to Lepers has bought an island off the coast of South China. On this site a model colony will be established and maintained for the benefit of the thousands of leper people of that district. The size of the colony will be determined by the resources that may be offered. Money and helpers are needed now for this attractive opportunity to serve the Chinese in a large way.

SAM HIGGINBOTTOM is here from Allahabad, India, and wants a new bungalow for the Superintendent of the Untainted Children's Home at Naini. When some one said "In your Leper Village you are working up a blind alley," he replied, "I am following just behind Jesus Christ."

NEW PICTURES of the Mary Stoner Leper Village, Chiangmai, Siam, are very interesting. She is a widow woman who, by careful saving, sent us money to build ten cottages. One sanitary cottage, caring for two patients can be built in Siam for \$150.00, and Dr. McKean says it will last 150 years, probably more. Ten of these cottages, built by Mrs. Stoner's money, provide homes for twenty outcast lepers. At the dedication of the Mary Stoner Village the Prince and other officials were present and said this was a great object lesson to a non-Christian land. They brought a grant of 5000 ticals from His Majesty's Government in aid of the Asylum. The day closed on a happy group of Lepers putting away their meagre possessions in the neat little cupboards, and lighting the fires, for their evening meal, in the convenient brick stoves with which each cottage is provided. Isn't this better than a memorial stone in a cemetery, seldom visited?

CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

LETTERS OF THANKS for Christmas Gifts sent to the Leper Homes last year, have been recently received. From all of these we get most inspiring messages of thanks to the donors who made the sending of gifts possible.

AT NASIK, Bombay Presidency, they decided to buy a set of Indian Musical Instruments for their Rirtans. A Rirtan is a combination of Bible Stories and Songs by which the Bible is brought to the Lepers in a form that appeals to them.

AT DIHAR, India, they bought clothes for some men who had newly arrived and who came practically naked, and also provided a special treat of food for all the patients.

BANKURA chose a gramaphone of "His Master's Voice" make. They also have some records with English hymn-tunes, which help in the teaching of Bible songs.

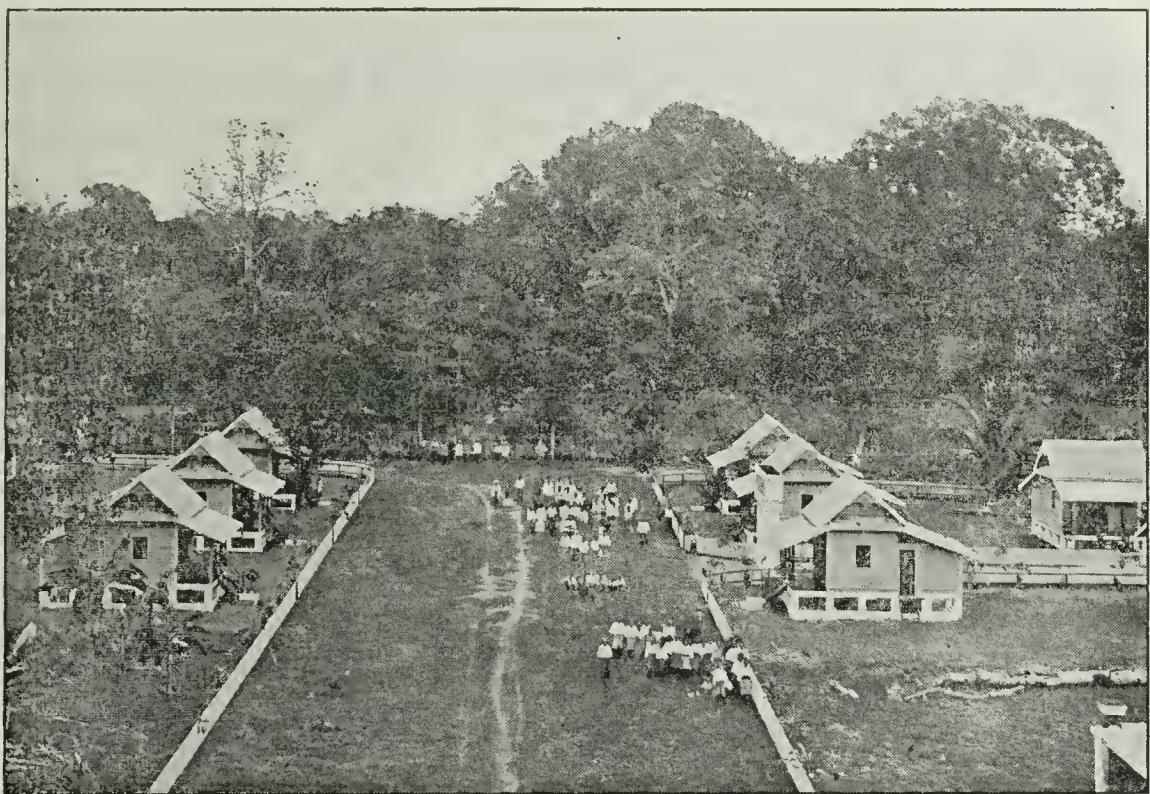
AT TARN TARAN the Superintendent added 48 Rupees to the 80 sent and bought Kurtas, and jackets for all.

MARY REED of Chandag held her check, needing, this fall, three times as much to buy a really good warm woolen garment for each of her sixty leper men, women, and children. She says they have missed this "comfort" for five years, because of the Kaiser's wickedness. Will we let them miss it still another year? Her words are:

"Please convey to the kind donors of the Rs 90 my heartiest thanks for their gifts which were intended for Christmas 1919, and the assurance that these tokens of their practical interest in the Master's work are greatly appreciated by,—

Yours, in His blessed service,

MARY REED."



A partial view of the Mary L. Stoner Leper Village, Chiengmai Asylum, Siam.

RAWAL PINDI send thanks for the timely help, enough to buy a sheet for each inmate. They say, "The Indian uses a sheet for a great many purposes. He wraps himself in one at night in lieu of a mosquito net to keep off the mosquitoes. He uses it to wrap up purchases from the bazaar, to clothe himself with in the day-time, etc.

I sent the evangelist to the bazaar and found a kind of sheet which cost Rs. 80 for 39 sheets and then I had enough money left to buy a brightly colored handkerchief for each leper and each servant in the asylum. These articles were accordingly distributed on Tuesday afternoon and it would have done the hearts of the donors good to see how delighted the poor creatures were with their gifts. They salaamed again and again."

THE RAMACHANDRAPURAM patients' allowance is reduced and they needed extra food in famine days, fruit to cool themselves with, a special diet to prepare the Deaconess for an operation, etc., so they thank the Lord, and you His messengers, for the sweet surprise and ask God to bless each one of you. The summary is:—

Rupees	50	for buttermilk for lepers and children, for 3 months.
"	50	" fruit allowance of 2 annas each, a month.
"	25	" a shady pandel for just the lepers.
"	5	" deaconess's diet.
"	5	" the pastor's daughter's wedding present.
"	5	" the Helper's boy's little new son.

Rupees 140 Total.

MR. MANRY for Allahabad Home assures the givers their money brought great happiness and will for a long time to come. It provided a magic Lantern, an alarm clock for each Home, Boys and Girls, and clothes for untainted girls badly in need.

AT SALUR, India, they bought a hand harmonium, ordered a pair of cymbals and a drum, and send their grateful thanks and salaams for the kind gift.

ONE HOME needed sweetening most of all and bought a little, coarse sugar—"jagry."

BE IT KNOWN TO ALL.—The Mission desires to send at once *practical "Holiday Greetings"* to all Leper Homes. Needed articles are soap, blankets and sandals, (bandages, medical supplies, food and clothing are always in demand.) The articles should not be sent if it is possible to send money instead. Good American dollars will buy much more right on the ground than here. Special arrangements are being made to secure quantities of soap. The price of a box of soap is not a large item, but even a child may send a cake of soap if not a box.

The cost for sandals is 30c to 50c a pair, needed to keep the leper's mutilated feet from contact with the bare ground. Blankets bought in the native markets will cost from two to three dollars. A blanket will warm the body as well as the heart of one leper all winter. The society makes an appeal for these genuine Christmas gifts so that every worker among the lepers, and every leper under the Christian care of the Mission, shall know they were remembered in love by the folks in America at Christmas time.

Offerings for this Leper's Christmas Day will be received and acknowledged by any Representative or by MR. FLEMING H. REVELL, Treasurer, The American Mission to Lepers, Inc., 156 Fifth Avenue, New York City. General fund gifts should be sent to the same address.

GENERAL NOTE. Please remind all helpers and representatives of The Mission to Lepers everywhere that American friends are now asked to provide an annual budget of \$219,150.00 or the equivalent of \$25.00 each hour of the day and night for America's share of this round the world task.—Even FIVE DOLLARS will take a twelve minute share of this annual budget.